

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 CAIRO 19902 011152Z
ACTION SS-25

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O 011144Z DEC 77
FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2249

C O N F I D E N T I A L CAIRO 19902

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PBOR, XF
SUBJECT: CAIRO PREPARATORY CONFERENCE--SOME MISCELLANEOUS
- OBSERVATIONS

1. INDICATIVE OF CURRENT STATE OF DISORGANIZATION OF MFA
"FRONT OFFICE," I HAVE SINCE LAST TUESDAY MORNING BEEN
TRYING TO MEET WITH ACTING FONMIN GHALI IN ORDER ALSO
TO CONVEY TO HIM OUR ACCEPTANCE OF GOE INVITATION. ONE
OF HIS SECRETARIES SAID HE HAD A FULL SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS,
BUT THAT THEY WOULD TRY TO FIT ME IN IF HE HAD SOME SPARE
TIME. HIS OFFICE NEVER CALLED BACK. (AS DEPT AWARE,
I WAS ABLE TUESDAY EVENING CONVEY IT TO VP MUBARAK.)
THIS MORNING HIS STAFF AIDE CALLED EMBOFF TO ASK FOR
COPY OF OUR ACCEPTANCE, WHICH HE UNDERSTOOD I HAD GIVEN
TO VP MUBARAK. EMBOFF RESPONDED OUR ACCEPTANCE HAD BEEN
ORAL, SINCE WE HAD A FEW QUESTIONS TO ASK ABOUT DATE.
HE ALSO INDICATED THAT I HAD BEEN TRYING TO MEET WITH
GHALI SINCE LAST TUESDAY TO DISCUSS THE MATTER.

2. STAFF AIDE SEEMED SURPRISED AND THOUGHT GHALI WAS
UNAWARE OF MY REQUEST FOR MEETING. (THIS IS QUITE
POSSIBLE, ALTHOUGH I HAD ALSO MENTIONED IT TO MFA UNDER
SECY AHMED OSMAN ON TUESDAY EVENING.) HE WAS SURE GHALI
WOULD WANT TO SEE ME AND UNDERTOOK CHECK AND CALL BACK.
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HE SUBSEQUENTLY CALLED TO SAY MEETING ARRANGED FOR 1100
TOMORROW, FRIDAY, DECEMBER 2. BOUTROS UNABLE RECEIVE ME
TODAY SINCE HE IS ENGAGED IN TALKS WITH VISITING TURKISH
FONMIN. (I EXPECT TO SEE HIM THIS EVENING AT OFFICIAL
DINNER HE IS HOSTING FOR TURK.)

3. ONE CURIOUS RESULT OF THIS MFA "FRONT OFFICE" DIS-

ORGANIZATION IS THAT GHALI MET WITH SOVIET AMBASSADOR POLYAKOV YESTERDAY TO RECEIVE SOVIET TURNDOWN, BUT HAS NOT YET MET WITH ME FORMALLY TO RECEIVE USG ACCEPTANCE. IF WE INTEND SEND WRITTEN REPLY (PARA 4, CAIRO 19870), I COULD GIVE IT TO GHALI AT TOMORROW'S MEETING.

4. UNDERSTAND GHALI ALSO PUZZLED ABOUT DECEMBER 13 CONVENING DATE AS ANNOUNCED BY PRESIDENT CARTER YESTERDAY. MFA, IT APPEARS, KNEW NOTHING ABOUT THIS.

5. RE ARRANGEMENTS FOR CONFERENCE, THERE IS A GREAT DEAL OF SCURRYING ABOUT BY VARIOUS MINISTRIES, BUT AS YET NO FIRM PLAN. PRESIDENCY DIRECTOR HASSAN KAMEL, TO WHOM I SPOKE THIS MORNING ABOUT ARRANGEMENTS, SAID HE IS CALLING A MEETING AT NOON TODAY WITH CONCERNED MINISTERS TO WORK OUT DETAILED ARRANGEMENTS FOR CONFERENCE. I QUERIED HIM THIS MORNING ABOUT MEDIA ACCOMMODATION PROBLEMS AS PER STATE 285495. HE SAID THIS IS TO BE WORKED OUT DURING NOON MEETING AND UNDERTOOK TO GET IN TOUCH WITH ME AFTERWARDS TO PROVIDE FULL ACCOUNT OF HOW GOE PROPOSES HANDLE VARIOUS CONFERENCE MATTERS. EILTS

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Disposition Action: RELEASED
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